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Agenda item 84

# The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction

## Report of the Sixth Committee

*Rapporteur*: Mr. Jean-Cédric **Janssens de Bisthoven** (Belgium)

## I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction" was included in the provisional agenda of the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly pursuant to Assembly decision 63/568 of 14 September 2009.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 18 September 2009, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the Sixth Committee.

3. The Sixth Committee considered the item at its 12th, 13th and 25th meetings, on 20 and 21 October and on 12 November 2009. The views of the representatives who spoke during the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.6/64/SR.12, 13 and 25).

## II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.6/64/L.18

4. At the 25th meeting, on 12 November 2009, the representative of Rwanda, on behalf of the Bureau, introduced a draft resolution entitled "The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction" (A/C.6/64/L.18).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.6/64/L.18 without a vote (see para. 6). After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of the Sudan made a statement in explanation of position (see A/C.6/64/SR.25).

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## III. Recommendation of the Sixth Committee

6. The Sixth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

### The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* its commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, to international law and to an international order based on the rule of law, which is essential for peaceful coexistence and cooperation among States,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite Member States to submit, before 30 April 2010, information and observations on the scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction, including information on the relevant applicable international treaties, their domestic legal rules and judicial practice, and to prepare and submit to the General Assembly, at its sixty-fifth session, a report based on such information and observations;

2. *Decides* that the Sixth Committee shall continue its consideration of the scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction, without prejudice to the consideration of related issues in other forums of the United Nations;

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction".